

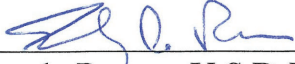
MEMO ENDORSED

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May 28, 2021

By ECF
Honorable Edgardo Ramos
U.S. District Judge
Southern District of New York
40 Foley Square
New York, N.Y. 10007

This matter will be heard at the June 11 status conference.
SO ORDERED.



Edgardo Ramos, U.S.D.J.
Dated: 6/3/2021
New York, New York

Re: United States v. Okeifa John
20 Cr. 477 (ER)

Dear Judge Ramos:

I was substituted to represent Mr. John on March 31, 2021. The next pretrial conference in this matter is scheduled for June 11, 2021. I write now to respectfully request that at Mr. John's request, I be relieved as counsel in this matter and that new CJA counsel be assigned.

Since I have been assigned in this matter, I have endeavored to review the bulk of the discovery and meet virtually with Mr. John on several occasions. Currently, the defense is awaiting the results of a recent DNA swab. Nevertheless, Mr. John gets agitated when I fail to answer his emails quickly enough or meet with him more frequently. Mr. John has a right to regular communication with his attorney and I certainly do not begrudge him that expectation. However, right now I am extremely busy and with several trials on the horizon, I don't expect that my workload will be getting lighter any time soon. To be clear, I have no personal conflict with Mr. John or his case and I wish him the best of luck. However, he has certain expectations that right now, given my current caseload, I am simply not able to accommodate. Thus, for his sake as well as mine, I believe that the assignment of new counsel would be the best solution.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, I respectfully request to be relieved as counsel in this matter. I apologize for any inconvenience.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

/s/ Matthew J. Kluger
Matthew J. Kluger, Esq.

cc: AUSA Andrew Rohrbach